

REMARKS

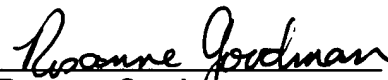
We appreciate the withdrawal of the §112 and double patenting rejections, and the Examiner's guidance with regard to corrections required before a notice of allowability can be issued for the application. To that end, we submit claims 1, 16 and 27 (underlined to delineate additions and deletions); an executed §3.73(b) statement; the original patent; and a form PTO-1449 citing all of the references from the original patent.

In light of these corrections, we respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. We therefore respectfully request that the entire application be allowed and an early notice to that effect be issued. If any additional issues remain, we invite the Examiner to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone if the Examiner believes that such action would facilitate allowance of the application.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Amendment, as it is being filed within thirty days of the mailing date of the outstanding Office Action. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such a fee to Deposit Account No. 12-1635.

Respectfully submitted,

November 20, 2000
Date


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